

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A task management system for executing a task selected from ~~tasks structuring a task combination~~ a plurality of tasks, the system stored on a computer-readable medium and comprising:
a task management table storing a plurality of task combinations, each task combination in the plurality of task combinations comprising at least one task from the plurality of tasks;
a processing unit for executing tasks in a present task combination;
a judging unit for determining whether there is a task combination switchover request; and
a switchover unit for, when the judging unit determines there is a task combination switchover request, switching over from the present task combination to a requested task combination after completing an execution of a specified task in the present task combination,
wherein:
the specified task is a task of which a processing completion is requested when switching over the task combination,
the task management table is generated and stored beforehand for every application,
the judging unit is adapted to determine whether there is a task combination switchover request based on a comparison of pattern numbers associated with the present and requested task combination;
if it is judged that the task combination switchover request exists, the judging unit is further adapted to determine whether a not-yet-executed task exists in the current task combination;

if it is judged that the not-yet executed task exists, the judging unit further adapted to judge whether or not there exists a task of which the processing completion is requested among the not-yet executed tasks; and

the processing unit is adapted to execute tasks in the requested task combination after the switching over.

~~a judging unit for judging whether there is a task combination switchover request or not;~~

~~a switchover unit for switching over the task combination after completing an execution of a specified task in the tasks structuring the task combination before the switchover when judging that there is the switchover request; and~~

~~an execution unit for executing the task selected from the tasks structuring the task combination switched over by said switchover unit.~~

2. (Currently Amended) A task management system according to claim 1, further comprising a storage unit for storing an associated relationship between one of the tasks in a structuring the task combination and an identifier for identifying this task with the specified task.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A task management program for method of executing a task selected from a plurality of tasks stored in a task management table structuring a task combination, the program stored on a computer-readable medium and comprising the steps of:

~~a judging step of judging whether there is a task combination switchover request has been made based on a comparison of pattern numbers associated with a present task combination, including at least one task from the plurality of tasks, and a requested task combination, including at least one task from the plurality of tasks or not;~~

~~a switchover step of switching over from the present task combination to the requested task combination the task combination when a switchover request has been made, wherein the switching over occurs after completing an execution of a specified~~

task in the tasks structuring the task combination before the switchover when judging that there is the switchover request; and

an executing step of executing the tasks selected from the tasks structuring in the requested task combination after the switching over switched over by said switchover unit,

wherein:

the specified task is a task of which a processing completion is requested when switching over the task combination,

the task management table is generated and stored beforehand for every application,

if it is judged that the task combination switchover request exists, it is determined whether a not-yet-executed task exists in the current task combination;

if it is judged that the not-yet executed task exists, it is judged whether there exists a task of which the processing completion is requested among the not-yet executed tasks.

5. (Currently Amended) A task management program method according to claim 4, wherein said switchover step involves, when judging that there is the switchover request, switching over the task combination after completing the execution of the specified task identified by an identifier in a storage unit for storing an associated relationship between one of the tasks in a structuring the task combination in the tasks structuring the task combination before the switchover and an identifier for identifying this task with the specified task.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Currently Amended) A task management system according to claim 2, wherein the specified task is a task that must complete execution prior to the of which a process completion is requested when switching over from the present task combination to the requested task combination.

8. (Currently Amended) A task management program ~~method~~ according to claim 5, wherein the specified task is a task that must complete execution prior to the ~~of which a~~ process completion is requested when switching over from the present task combination to the requested task combination.